

NVARC

Newsletter of the Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club

July 1992

Volume 1 Number 1

Next Meeting: 20 August 1992

Field Day, 1992

They say (OK, I say) that Field Day occurs on the last full weekend of rain in June. That said, it should be noted that it came right on schedule this year.

To be fair, it wasn't a *full* weekend of rain. But the annual rainstorm did make its appearance. This year, the Field Day effort was a 2A operation under the call sign of Field Day Coordinator (and club Vice President) **Bruce, K1BG**.

Our excellent site by the shore of the mighty Nashua River normally grows hay, but that weekend it sprouted a 30-foot tower with tri-bander, numerous dipoles and a tripod full of satellite antennas. Two complete HF stations worked 'round the clock, a packet station ran for part of Saturday and the satellite station didn't run at all (don't ask.)

The unofficial scoring:

Bonus Category	Points	Mult	Total
Emergency power	100	2	200
Publicity	100	1	100
Msg Origination	100	1	100
W1AW Message	100	1	100
Packet QSO	100	1	100
Total Bonus Points			600

	QSO's	Mult	Total
CW	794	2	1,588
Phone	589	1	589
Sub-Total			2,177
Power Class mult			2
Total QSO Points			4,354

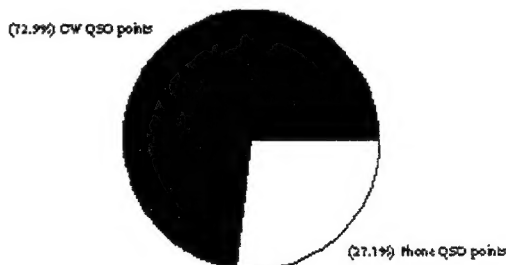
Grand Total Field Day 1992

4,954

Taking a cue from the graphs Bruce passed out just before Field Day, here's a comparison of Phone .vs. CW QSO's by number:



As you see, CW contacts made up 57.4% of the contacts made. However, if we compare CW contacts in terms of the number of points they generated, we get a different graph:

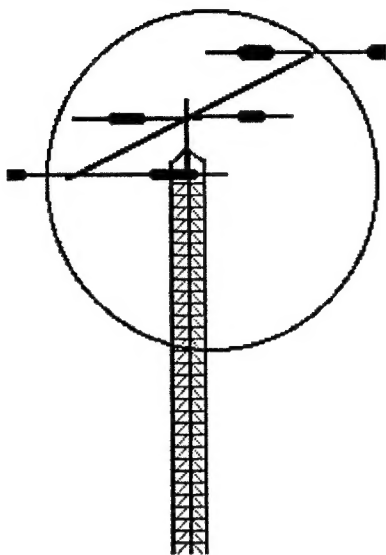


This shows that CW brought in 72.9% of the QSO points in the Field Day score. We could argue that the 2:1 point advantage of CW is artificial, but its effect on the score is real enough. See following article.

Special thanks go to **Al Smith** who gave permission for the club to use his field for Field Day. Also **Keith Akens** and **Josh Aho** who, while not hams themselves treated setup and tear down just as seriously as those of us who had a reason to give up our weekend. Honorable mention goes to **Mike Morgan** who

helped Keith and Josh guard the site on Friday night. Thanks guys.

The excellent performance turned in at this site should only be surpassed by next year's effort....



Code Practice Net Starting

Speaking of Field Day...several operators (myself included) respectfully declined to operate CW despite the 2:1 point boost that CW contacts have.

I canvassed a little bit to get a sense of why people other than myself shy away from the key. The reason seemed to be that in this Elmerless age, most new licensees learn their code by themselves from a cassette tape and never really get comfortable with CW on the air. There's something about on-the-air contacts that's a little too confrontational. You're dealing with strangers and you don't want to mess up so the pressure builds -- it's just not fun.

What's needed is a calm place where you can mess up amongst friends. Where you know the people and have a safety net as you get comfortable enough to go assault strangers and upgrade your license class.

Ben, KB1FJ, has kindly stepped forward to take over as net control for this project. The name of the net, the time and frequency will get

settled at the July meeting among those who will participate.

Public Service Log



Public service events are the most visible activity that hams undertake, and those who take time out of their schedules deserve our deepest thanks, not just for the service they provide to the public but for the service they provide to the amateur radio community.

In this column, which I hope will be a regular feature, we tip our hats to those who serve one of the club's major focus areas: public service events. As the lines of communication get perfected, I hope to publish the call signs of individual members who have participated in various events.

In July, the members of the Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club provided radio support for Pepperell's 4th of July events. Coordinated by Steve, N1DDE, the events included the 3rd of July road race and the 4th of July parade. The parade, though marred by rain, drew a good sized crowd.

In connection with the race, we have received a card from Shirley Clark, a project manager with United Video CableVision thanking the hams for their assistance. Ben, KB1FJ will have the card at the July meeting for all to see.

Coming Attractions...

August 20th

Next meeting the guest speaker will be Dave, KA1DT speaking on the subject of radio direction finding. (If you can find your way to the meeting...)

September 17th

Hob-nob with a ham radio legend!
The guest speaker for September will be Ken, K1EA, speaking on CT and Packetcluster.

SO, HOW COPY?

This is the first issue of what, after a little organization and coordination, I hope will be one of the best small-club newsletters anywhere. It can't be the best if it doesn't serve the needs of the membership, so I would like to hear what you think, what you want, what you can give.

If you organize or coordinate an event, please send a summary of what you did, when and who else participated. If you'd like to write a whole article, by all means do -- it's not my goal to write every word of this newsletter.

If you have dreams of your own monthly column, dream no longer -- let's get it started. If there's something you are interested in, even if you can't be an information source yourself, let me know.

Articles, columns and features should be radio related but do not specifically have to address ham radio. I envision this policy to be wide enough to meet members' interest in short-wave listening, scanners, collecting, radio telescopes, radio related fiction, poetry or finger-painting -- the sky's the limit. In all cases, the editor's decision of what is appropriate is final.

-- KC1TD

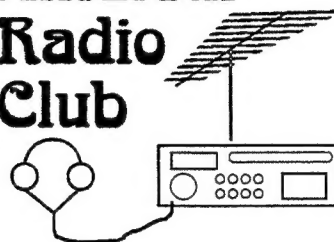
Name the Newsletter

Handsome though it is, and surely a collector's item, Volume 1 Number 1 is short on a name. I'm not sure that we need one, but if you think so, send in your suggestions.

Frequencies to remember

- The local 440 repeater is KB1FJ -- 447.9 / 442.9
- The "local frequency" on two meters is 145.49 simplex.
- The local CW net time and frequency will appear in the next issue.

Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club



President: Earl Russell, WR1Y
Vice President: Bruce Blain, K1BG
Secretary: Dwayne Long, WB1GUO
Treasurer: Bud Bramer, N1-cal-hin-mail

Membership \$12 January to December,
not pro-rated for 1992.

Meetings are on the third Thursday of the
Month and 7:30 p.m. in the Pepperell VFW
hall off route 113 in Pepperell.

The newsletter is published monthly and
distributed at the meeting. Submissions,
corrections and inquiries should be
directed to the newsletter editor Patrick
Taber, KC1TD.

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Telephone: (508)433-2521 (before 9:30 p.m.
please.)

NVARC

Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club Key to Calendar of Events

CW slow - Code practice at 5, 7 1/2, 10, 13, and 15 WPM -- transmitted by the ARRL on the following frequencies:

1.8180, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675, and 147.555 MHz

VE Sessions - For more information, contact the following people:

Fort Devens: Tom Sefranek, 508-425-6672
Shirley: Diana L. Syriac, 508-840-1337

MIT UHF Repeater Association Flea Market - Albany & Main Streets, Cambridge, MA

Contact: Steve Finberg, W1GSL
P. O. Box 82
Cambridge, MA 02139

NVARC Meeting! -- Third Thursday of every month - Be There!

Notes:

1. If anyone has anything they think should be included in the September calendar, please see me at the meeting or call me at 448-3049.

Thanks,

Duane, WB1GUO, Secretary NVARC



August 1992

Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

						1 4:00pm CW slow 10:00pm CW slow
2 VE-Fort Devens 4:00pm CW slow 10:00pm CW slow	3 7:00pm CW slow	4 10:00pm CW slow	5 7:00pm CW slow	6 10:00pm CW slow	7 7:00pm CW slow	8 4:00pm CW slow 10:00pm CW slow
9 VE-Fort Devens VE - Fort Devens VE - Gloucester 4:00pm CW slow 10:00pm CW slow	10 VE - Shirley VE-Shirley 7:00pm CW slow	11 10:00pm CW slow	12 7:00pm CW slow	13 7:30pm NVARC Board Meeting 10:00pm CW slow	14 7:00pm CW slow	15 4:00pm CW slow 10:00pm CW slow
16 VE-Fort Devens 9:00am MIT Flea Market 4:00pm CW slow 10:00pm CW slow	17 7:00pm CW slow	18 10:00pm CW slow	19 7:00pm CW slow	20 7:30pm NVARC Meeting! 10:00pm CW slow	21 7:00pm CW slow	22 4:00pm CW slow 10:00pm CW slow
23 VE-Fort Devens 4:00pm CW slow 10:00pm CW slow	24 VE-Shirley 7:00pm CW slow	25 10:00pm CW slow	26 7:00pm CW slow	27 10:00pm CW slow	28 7:00pm CW slow	29 4:00pm CW slow 10:00pm CW slow
30 VE-Fort Devens 4:00pm CW slow 10:00pm CW slow	31 7:00pm CW slow					

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

See key on reverse for explanation and further information.